

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4-9, and 11-14 are now present in this application. Claims 1, 5-8, and 12-14 are independent.

Claims 3 and 10 have been canceled; and claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 12, and 13 have been amended. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Reasons for Entry of Amendments

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the amendments to the claims automatically place the application in condition for allowance.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takatori (US 6,252,629) in view of Kato (JP 2003-134431). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

With regard to the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 4, while not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of objected-to allowable claim 3¹, thereby automatically placing independent claim 1 into condition for allowance, along with dependent claims 2 and 4.

With regard to the rejection of claims 8, 9, and 11, while not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance prosecution of the instant application, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 8 has been amended to

¹ It is noted that the subject matter of claim 3, as incorporated into independent claim 1, has been slightly revised. Particularly, in order to correct a previous typographical error, the phrase "...the extension keyword device adds to the recording end time..." of claim 3 has been changed to "...the delay device adds to the recording end time...." It is respectfully submitted that such revision does not affect the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

include the limitations of objected-to allowable claim 10, thereby automatically placing independent claim 8 into condition for allowance, along with dependent claims 9 and 11.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 5, 6, 12, and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in this application. Each of objected-to claims 5, 6, 12, and 13 has been rewritten into independent form, and should therefore be allowed.

The Examiner also states that claims 3 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As set forth above, the limitations of objected-to claim 3 (slightly revised) have been added into independent claim 1, and therefore independent claim 1 should be in condition for allowance. Similarly, the limitations of objected-to claim 10 has been added to independent claim 8, and therefore independent claim 8 should be in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

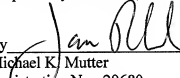
All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes, Registration No. 47305, at the telephone number of the undersigned below to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Director is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge any fees required during the pendency of the above-identified application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

Dated: April 22, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

for  #47,305
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